Amendment #3
to RFP-NIH-NIAID-DAIT-02-16

"Bioinformatics Integration Support Contract (BISC)"

Amendment to Solicitation No.:	NIH-NIAID-DAIT-02-16
Amendment No.:	3
Amendment Issue Date:	February 1, 2002
RFP Issue Date:	November 20, 2001
Proposal Due Date:	February 15, 2002, 3:00 P.M. EST
Issued By:	Barbara Shadrick Senior Contracting Officer NIH/NIAID Contract Management Branch 6700-B Rockledge Drive Room 2230, MSC 7612 Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7612
Point of Contact:	Cyndie Cotter, Contracting Officer ccotter@niaid.nih.gov
Name and Address of Offeror:	To All Offerors

Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of RFP NIH-NIAID-DAIT-02-16 remain unchanged and in full force and effect. THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED FOR RECEIPT OF OFFERS IS NOT EXTENDED.

The above numbered solicitation is amended as follows:

1. Section A, <u>The System</u> (page 6), paragraph 4 entitled <u>Level of Integration Versus Innovation</u>, the paragraph is hereby modified to include the information in bold below:

    <u>Level of Integration Versus Innovation</u>. Addressing these needs will require the contractor to apply the latest available information technology solutions for the collection, representation, storage, and retrieval of scientific information. While some applications are already available, some new application development will be required, especially in application scaling and data exchange. **The term "application scaling" refers to specific choices and actions that the contractor must take regarding such matters as (a) the original software technology selection, (b) basic design assumptions about the system architecture and workflow, as well as (c) functionality of each application. This term indicates a major expectation of the contractor to find a path for bringing selected applications developed for local use in small groups to a level where they can serve several users in a distributed fashion.** Satisfying the present need will require the contractor to introduce creative approaches in project management and workflow, perhaps adjusting best practice in other sectors to the needs of scientists. Finally, addressing these needs will require the introduction of emerging industry standards in bioinformatics, computational biology, **engineering, computer sciences, and systems integration applied to** life sciences discovery.

2. Section A, <u>Phase I - Statement of Work</u>, Task 2., 1st paragraph, the paragraph is replaced with the following (the

modified portion is in bold):

> Consistent with the aims of this project, the Contractor shall propose and prototype a system involving multiple instruments and collection points, where data of varied types are gathered and exchanged with reliable integrity and comparability. For all instruments used in participating laboratories – including, but not limited to elispot, tetramer, microarray, flow cytometry, and mass spectroscopy – the Contractor shall seek to enhance extant methods of sample generation, sample distribution, work scheduling, data verification, normalization, and correction, as well as the generation, storage, and retrieval of all experimental results and records. In designing a system to meet the data handling requirements of this community specifically with respect to genomics and proteomics, the Contractor shall devise means to develop and**/or** diffuse (a) common methods of data normalization and curation that can dramatically improve the utility, usability, portability, and survivability of electronic records, (b) **advanced methods for the determination of protein structure via X-ray crystallography, NMR, and various sequencing methods, and (c) advanced methods for the analysis of mRNA expression and transcription.** While they must enhance the discovery process, these means shall not constrain or disrupt the discovery process. The Contractor shall be sufficiently experienced in the conduct of biomedical research to gather information, as well as propose and implement solutions in a manner that is understood by and agreeable to end users. This shall be achieved via the following tasks: . . . . . .

3. Section A, <u>Phase I - Statement of Work</u>, Task 6. is added as follows:

> **Task 6. After presenting the results of the above Tasks 1. - 3. to the NIAID Project Officer and the NIH SEP, the contractor shall continue to perform work in accordance with the Phase I Statement of Work relevant to achieving an acceptable final product. This may include, but is not limited to, the following: (a) demonstrating the prototype to various parties; (b) developing documentation for the prototype system; (c) confirming findings of the requirements assessment; (d) validating the assumptions forming a basis for the systems architecture; and, (e) refining the prototype in an iterative fashion through close communication with end-users.**

4. Section A, <u>Phase I - Additional Information on the Scope and Requirements of the Solicitation</u>, item 7), 1st paragraph, the paragraph is hereby modified to include the information in bold below:

> <u>Programs to be served by this contract.</u> Initially, the Contractor will be expected to identify and plan to assess requirements for a distributed, multidisciplinary community of basic and clinical researchers. In Phase I, the contractor will then assess the requirements of this community and design a system to meet its requirements. In selecting the target community, the offeror should focus on research activities of direct interest to the Division of Allergy, Immunology, & Transplantation (DAIT) of the National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases, NIAID at URL: http://www.niaid.nih.gov/research/dait.htm.) Although offerors will not be expected to have an established relationship with any particular researchers or programs, some of the relevant programs currently supported by DAIT include, but are not limited to those listed below. The Contractor may consider these laboratories to be representative of those that will participate in Phase Two of this project. **In addition, please note that data generated from research from commonly used animal models are potentially relevant to this project.**

5. Section L, <u>Instructions, Conditions and Notices to Offerors</u>, 2.b., <u>Technical Proposal Instructions</u>, paragraph (5) (page 58), is amended to add the following sentence to the end of the first paragraph.

> **The proposal should make special note of any security measures taken that pertain specifically to the handling or storage of scientific research and clinical data, paying special attention to the protection of human subjects and intellectual property.**

Offerors must acknowledge receipt of this <u>Amendment No. 3</u> by the following method:
- By acknowledging receipt of the amendment on each copy of the offer submitted.

Failure to receive your acknowledgment of this amendment may result in the rejection of your offer.